



VILLAGE OF TRUMANSBURG
COMPREHENSIVE *PLAN*
VISION STATEMENTS
AND
STRATEGIES

DRAFT

August 2007

Dear Village Resident,

After the overwhelming response to last summer's survey for the Village of Trumansburg Comprehensive Plan, your suggestions are needed once again. We need ten more minutes of your time....

After collecting results from the Comprehensive Plan Survey, compiling community suggestions at two public workshops, and researching plans for comparable communities within New York State, we have put together Vision Statements and Strategies for the next twenty years. These Vision Statements and Strategies are the next steps in the process of developing the Comprehensive Plan. Once again, your input is a critical part of creating a strong Comprehensive Plan, which will guide the future for the village of Trumansburg.

We, the members of the Comprehensive Plan Committee, are writing to ask you and members of your household to read the Vision Statements and Strategies and provide us with your comments, suggestions and additional strategies that you would like to see incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan. If more than one person in your household would like to provide comments, feel free to photocopy the enclosed Vision Statement and Strategies, download it from the web site (www.trumansburg-ny.gov) or pick up extra copies at the Village Hall.

This is your opportunity to guide the Comprehensive Plan. You are invited to be a part of the public process.

Please submit your comments by **Monday, August 20, 2007**. Drop boxes will be located at Trumansburg ShurSave, Trumansburg Save-a-lot, Trumansburg Tompkins Trust Company, Ulysses Philomathic Library or Trumansburg Village Hall. You are also welcome to email your comments to clerk@trumansburg-ny.gov.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

2007 Comprehensive Plan Committee Members: Nancy Bonn, Bill Connor, Deirdre Cunningham, Don Ellis, David Filiberto, Don Schlather, Christopher Thomas and Dorothy Vanderbilt

COMMUNITY

20-Year Vision:

In 2027, Trumansburg is a community that values safety, economic and cultural diversity, and local cultural history – residents actively plan to protect the Village’s rural and friendly nature. Visitors feel a sense of community pride because of the welcoming entrances, and the well-maintained walkways and tree-lined streets. As a quiet, rural upstate New York village, with an accessible and attractive commercial center, Trumansburg is a place where people of all ages can freely engage in community life.

Design guidelines exist for all new construction, building renovations and commercial signage in order to maintain the downtown’s historic integrity while allowing a degree of owner creativity. Strategically placed interpretive markers on Main Street and occasional historic houses and cemetery tours help provide the historical context for present day Trumansburg. The school system is a strong Village asset providing a positive educational experience and a community connection for families. The schools also provide educational opportunities that prepare graduates for the modern workplace, further education and an active life within the local community.

Working towards this vision, our community goals are to:

1. Maintain a safe community that is welcoming to people of all cultures, ages, and walks of life.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Establish a committee to raise funds to maintain sidewalks and ensure sidewalks exist on at least one side of the street throughout neighborhoods.
- Coordinate with Trumansburg Walkability Study to determine where there are gaps in sidewalk connections.
- Establish design standards that incorporate front porches or similar aspect that encourages people to be involved in the public realm.

COMMENTS:

2. Maintain a quiet, rural village with an accessible, attractive, and historic downtown.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Establish architectural guidelines that encourage new construction to keep in context with design standards.
- Work with local officials to enforce established noise ordinance.
- Provide good signage to show available parking within the village.
- Form a non-profit, such as a land trust, to protect farmland.
- Work with the Town to provide favorable support to maintain the rural property of the area.

COMMENTS:

3. Establish welcoming entrances, well-maintained walkways, and tree-lines streets throughout the village.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Install new signs and landscaping at entrances to the village on Route 96 and 227.
- Incorporate landscape and sidewalk requirements into new construction subdivision regulations.

- Adopt tree conservation and sidewalk maintenance ordinances.
- Reconvene the Street Tree Commission to organize a tree planning and maintenance program.
- Ensure that neighborhood infrastructure is consistently maintained.

COMMENTS:

4. Maintain and promote the historic integrity of the village.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Establish design guidelines that incorporate historic elements in keeping with village character.
- Install interpretive markers that provide information about village history.
- Engage historic society to develop village tours.

COMMENTS:

5. Provide excellent education opportunities that prepare students for jobs, higher education, and community engagement.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Establish a non-profit to work with schools to establish a shadowing program with high school students and local colleges.
- Establish a non-profit to work with school officials to incorporate community service as a component of their curriculum.
- Collaborate with schools to involve families on mutual projects to benefit the larger community.

COMMENTS:

HOUSING

20-Year Vision

In 2027, housing in Trumansburg includes a variety of architectural styles and a range of affordable options. An integrated network of streets and sidewalks safely connect the commercial core with adjacent residential neighborhoods. Safe and accessible downtown housing, available on the upper floors of street-level retail and service businesses, encourages a vibrant, active community experience.

Residential guidelines stabilize the neighborhoods through a shared understanding of features and practices that give Trumansburg its special character. New house construction, when integrated within older residential neighborhoods, incorporates historically sensitive design elements. Zoning ordinance assures that new house construction provides off-street parking with safe sidewalks and streets that ensure safe vehicular traffic. Multi-unit senior housing is located close to downtown amenities and provides an affordable option for retirees. A variety of housing densities and types offer diverse housing options while allowing for efficient installation of infrastructure and roads.

Working towards this vision, our housing goals are to:

1. Maintain a variety of architectural styles, housing densities, and affordable housing options.

Potential Five-Year Strategies

- Revise zoning ordinance to incorporate greater variety in housing density and types, including permitting accessory apartments.
- Incorporate an affordable housing density bonus into the village zoning ordinance.
- Work with Better Housing for Tompkins County to implement a home repair program.
- Establish programs to encourage green-building design.

COMMENTS:

2. Establish streets and sidewalks that provide a safe connection between downtown and adjacent residential neighborhoods.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Utilize the Trumansburg Walkability Study to determine what areas of walkability need to be addressed.
- Install streetlights along key streets.
- Incorporate the concept of “complete streets” which integrate the needs of all modes of travel, including walking, biking, transit and automobiles.

COMMENTS:

3. Promote new housing construction that is in harmony with existing neighborhoods, incorporates historically sensitive design elements, provides off-street parking and sidewalks, and allows for efficient installation of infrastructure and roads.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Incorporate design guidelines, off-street parking, sidewalk and infrastructure requirements into site plan review, zoning ordinance and subdivision regulations for residential development.

COMMENTS:

4. Create safe and accessible housing on the upper floors of downtown commercial buildings.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Hire consultants to work with private property owners.

COMMENTS:

5. Establish multi-unit housing that provides adequate green space and accommodates additional vehicular traffic.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Ensure there is accessibility to green space in multi-unit housing.
- Establish subdivision/site plan regulations.

COMMENTS:

6. Establish affordable housing for seniors in close proximity to downtown amenities.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Establish senior housing density bonuses.
- Revise zoning ordinance to allow elder cottages on existing residential lots.

COMMENTS:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

20-Year Vision

In 2027, Trumansburg has a thriving downtown with a variety of locally owned businesses. Shops and services meet the daily needs of residents from the village and surrounding locales – Trumansburg is the commercial and social center of adjacent rural communities. By supporting a diversity of locally owned and operated businesses, resident and visitor dollars strengthen the Village’s economic stability.

Marketing and public relations strategies are in place to identify and attract traditional and non-traditional economic development clientele. The school system, a primary reason why many people and businesses locate here, provides educational training and employment opportunities to retain youth as employees and entrepreneurs. Numerous home-based micro-enterprises have the capability for continual employment opportunities. Collaborative efforts between the Village and Town of Ulysses have created good jobs in technology and other light industries, as well as agricultural initiatives that support the Trumansburg Farmers Market. Bed and Breakfasts, as the primary lodging option for visitors, preserve older homes that enhance the Village’s historic character. Recognizing that tourism is a top growth industry that will continue to flourish, Trumansburg has found the balance between accommodating increasing numbers of visitors and maintain a rural, peaceful atmosphere.

Working towards this vision, our economic development goals are to:

1. Create a thriving downtown with a multitude of diverse, locally owned businesses that meet the daily needs of residents from the village and surrounding areas.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Establish a Village Small Business Incentive Program that encourages residents to open their own business.
- Develop a “Shop Local” Campaign that includes a directory of village services and businesses.
- Conduct an analysis of parking needs and identify potential gaps.

COMMENTS:

2. Encourage the establishment of numerous home-based micro-enterprises that provide diverse employment opportunities for village residents.
- Potential Five-Year Strategies:
- Create a database that provides up-to-date information on the available commercial and retail space in downtown buildings.
 - Review current zoning ordinance and modify, as necessary, to include clearly defined types of home-based businesses and the accompanying permissive regulations for these businesses; maintain strict limits to surrounding residential impact.

COMMENTS:

3. Maintain and establish commercial buildings that reflect the rural and historic character of the village.
- Potential Five-Year Strategies:
- Create a Trumansburg Historic District.
 - Revise site plan review to incorporate layout and design of buildings.
 - Revise zoning ordinance so it better reflects and perpetuates the character and style of traditional commercial buildings in the village.

COMMENTS:

4. Enhance cultural resources, education opportunities, historic amenities, and marketing strategies that attract businesses and their employees.
- Potential Five-Year Strategies:
- Work with the Chamber of Commerce and/or local non-profit organization to operate business incubators.

COMMENTS:

5. Collaborate with the Town of Ulysses to support local agriculture and promote the Trumansburg Farmers Market.
- Potential Five-Year Strategies:
- Work with Town of Ulysses, and potentially neighboring communities in Seneca County, to promote the Trumansburg Farmers Market with local producers and merchants.
 - Improve signage and advertising for the Trumansburg Farmers Market.
 - Develop a “Buy Local Produce” Campaign.
 - Establish a committee to explore the feasibility of a Trumansburg Harvest Festival.

COMMENTS:

6. Establish tourist amenities that promote and protect the historic character of Trumansburg.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Identify key tourist amenities and create a tourism brochure.
- Coordinate with the Tompkins County Convention and Visitors Bureau to assist in identifying ways that Trumansburg and its tourism attractions and services can be incorporated in related promotions.
- Coordinate with Countywide efforts to produce and maintain a visitor information kiosk to be located on Main Street, or other suitable, visible location.
- Work with Cayuga Wine Trail, the Cayuga Lake Scenic Byway and the Taughannock Falls State Park in cross-promotions, with Trumansburg establishments serving as viable dining and lodging options.
- Develop a walking tour of buildings in Trumansburg listed on the National Register of Historic Places along with other buildings of historical significance.
- Produce a walking loop brochure.

COMMENTS:

7. Accommodate an increasing number of visitors while maintaining a rural peaceful atmosphere.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Provide a central parking area that is easily accessible to the downtown and tourist attractions.
- Create a central website for visitors interested in lodging in Trumansburg.
- Establish a volunteer committee to identify and promote the unique niche Trumansburg can fill in the regional tourism picture.

COMMENTS:

ENVIRONMENT

20-Year Vision

In 2027, Trumansburg preserves green space for the public and remains a good steward of all public spaces. The Village and the Town of Ulysses work together to protect the water quality of existing wetlands and creeks, and to promote natural resources such as Taughannock Falls and Cayuga Lake as unique assets within the area. Trumansburg pursues several environmentally sound initiatives that access renewable resources such as wind, geothermal and solar energy. An energy use inventory was developed and is now the basis for an energy use master plan for the Village. The community encourages resource conservation through recycling initiatives that promote self-sustainable 'green practices'.

Working toward this vision, our **environmental goals** are to:

1. Create and maintain open space to balance land preservation and public use.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Identify specific sites that can be set aside for presentation as green space.
- Establish zoning for development with green space; conservation easements; incorporate cluster zoning.

COMMENTS:

2. Collaborate with the Town of Ulysses to protect water quality and promote conservation and appreciation of unique natural assets within the area.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Establish a joint task force that includes Village and Town board members and residents to address water quality and unique natural assets.
- Establish 100' setbacks from streams in zoning ordinance.
- Establish a local wetlands protection ordinance.
- Establish a Critical Environmental Area with the identified Unique Natural Area.

COMMENTS:

3. Promote village-wide resource conservation.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Establish an energy use inventory for the Village.
- Establish a recycling initiative.
- Contract with an agency or company to conduct an energy audit for the Village.
- Evaluate energy efficiency programs offered by NYSERDA (New York State Energy, Research and Development Authority).

COMMENTS:

4. Pursue alternative renewable sources of energy.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Explore potential renewable energy sources such as wind or geothermal energy.
- Educate community on energy-saving practices.
- Work with Public Works Department to purchase renewable energy credits for use in Village offices and buildings.
- Adopt a "Green Fleet" Vehicle Policy for Village owned vehicles.

COMMENTS:

RECREATION

20-Year Vision

In 2027, Trumansburg recognizes that recreational activities are important to the economic, environmental and social health of its community. The Village has an established physical connection to the Black Diamond Trail for extended hiking and biking opportunities. Indoor and outdoor recreational activities such as swimming, skate boarding, basketball and tennis are available for all generations of residents. There is a multi-purpose community center available for residents of all ages.

Working toward this vision, our recreation goals are to:

1. Create a trail or pedestrian way that connects the Village of Trumansburg to the Black Diamond Trail.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Work with State Parks to acquire property and/or trail easements for the future trail connections.
- Contract a Recreational Planning Service to facilitate trail connection opportunities.

COMMENTS:

2. Establish indoor and outdoor recreational facilities that provide activities such as swimming, skate boarding, basketball and tennis.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Pursue private funding sources for recreational facilities, including grants and local fundraisers.
- Publicize the availability of adult leagues and adult classes offered at the schools by the Trumansburg Community Education Programs.
- Establish greenways that connect the commercial, residential and natural features of the community.
- Look at the possibility of a community swimming pool, including options to share pool facility with schools.

COMMENTS:

3. Establish multi-purpose community center.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Explore various sites that are suitable for community recreational purposes.

COMMENTS:

LAND USE

20-Year Vision

In 2027, Trumansburg has zoned tracts of land identified for commercial and residential development. Additional acreage, protected as agriculture, wetlands, green space and recreation areas, preserve contiguous physical and visual connections to the surrounding rural landscape. All new building construction along the Main Street corridor has ample parking behind their structures (where permissible) so that building setbacks are consistent with existing historic buildings and street parking is more accessible. Residential zones of varying densities offer a range of housing options that are affordable for low to middle income households.

Through the cooperative planning efforts of residents and business owners, the village, as a self-sustaining, creative and friendly community, is protected from unwanted, unnecessary development. Established zoning regulations, which provide sufficient infrastructure, enable locally owned small businesses to thrive while embracing Trumansburg's upstate New York rural character.

Working towards this vision, our land use goals are to:

1. Protect farmland, wetlands and green-space that provide contiguous physical and visual connections to the surrounding rural landscape without imposing economic hardships on landowners.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Work with agricultural landowners in the Village to support agricultural operations.

COMMENTS:

2. Promote new construction along Main Street with setbacks that are consistent with existing historic buildings and ample parking located preferably behind the structure.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Incorporate minimum and maximum set back requirements in zoning regulations for Main Street commercial districts.
- Create a Design Guideline Manual for the purpose of informing the Planning Board.
- Incorporate parking regulations into zoning and/or site plan review ordinances.
- Establish in the zoning ordinance a minimum height for buildings of 2 stories; maximum height of 3 stories.
- Incorporate design review into the site plan review process.

COMMENTS:

3. Establish residential neighborhoods of varying densities that offer a range of affordable housing options.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Revise zoning ordinance to provide diversity in required lot size.
- Educate the community on affordable housing options.
- Identify areas of the Village where high-density housing could be established including additional Village streets.

COMMENTS:

4. Protect the village from development that might undermine its rural character or the vitality of locally owned businesses.

Potential Five-Year Strategies:

- Establish maximum building sizes for commercial development.
- Establish site plan guidelines that incorporate traditional village architectural elements.

COMMENTS:

Thank You for your Participation!